

Good Morning, Senator Doyle, Representative Walker and the distinguished members of the Human Services committee. I am here today to express concerns about H.B. 5243 An Act Concerning Sober Homes.

My name is Adam S. I live in a sober house in Meriden, CT. Without this place of sanctuary I would probably not be alive and in recovery today. This one particular house, a Stepping Stone House, has taken me in three times in the last five years. Every time I am there I am able to attain and maintain my recovery. Not only is it a recovery based atmosphere, but the house also promotes 12 step recovery. We have mandatory 12 step meetings to go to and are encouraged to get a sponsor, get commitments, and work the 12 steps. Without this house I don't know where I would go, what I would do, or if I would be in recovery today. It provides a safe place with other recovering men that I can talk to day or night if I have a problem. Thank God for my sober house. Without it I wouldn't have the opportunity to build the foundation for my recovery.

Please do not put in place a statute that may well jeopardize access to housing for persons striving to recover their lives and become productive members of society. Please consider working with DMHAS, the Recovery Housing Coalition of CT and the recovery community to accommodate community needs, Thank you.